

### **REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action mailed May 31, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 1-7 are pending for examination, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claims 1-7 have been amended herein for clarity, and to put the claims into better form for allowance.

In claim 1, the term "uniform text file" has been amended to "uniform-formatted text file" because the latter term is believed to be a more appropriate translation of the corresponding Chinese characters contained in the PCT application. In addition, the term "universal" has been amended to "common," and the term "unique" has been amended to "special" so as to reflect the corresponding Chinese characters more precisely. Corresponding changes have also been made to the dependent claims and the specification. These amendments are based on the original disclosure of the PCT application as filed. No new matter has been added.

#### **Discussion of Embodiments of the Invention**

Some embodiments of the invention relate to a method of using a common HLR to provide subscriber data backup for multiple HLRS in the network. Data exchange and synchronization can be performed using uniform-formatted text files. The use of uniform-formatted text files can make it easier for a common HLR to back up multiple HLRs made by different manufacturers. Such embodiments can provide an HLR backup solution with reduced cost, easier implementation, and simplified management. (Page 4 of the Specification).

The foregoing discussion has been provided solely to facilitate examination of the present application. It should be appreciated that the claims are not limited to the techniques described above. Applicants respectfully request that each claim be considered on its own merits.

#### **Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102**

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being purportedly anticipated by Gan (U.S. Patent No. 7,013,139 B1). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

1. Discussion of Gan

Gan describes a method for HLR data migration in which two HLRs back up data for each other. Gan's backup implementation is to have a mated pair of two HLRs (A and B) coupled together such that each HLR stores the data of the other HLR, and each backs up the other HLR in case of failure. Gan's system has "... two nodes A and B arranged into a mated pair in which each node supports for example half the active subscriber data as well as standby subscriber data corresponding to active data on the other node." (Col. 3, lines 45-49) Gan further states that "upon repair or replacement of node B for example, it is desirable to re-establish the original mated pair arrangement as described above in which active subscriber data is shared across the two nodes A and B." (Col. 4 lines 35-38). FIGS. 1 and 2 of Gan illustrate the two HLR nodes A and B backing up data for each other. Thus, in Gan's technique, an HLR serves as a backup for a single other HLR.

Applicants point out that the background section of the present application describes a technique similar to Gan's in which an HLR backs up data for a single other HLR (1 + 1 backup solution).

2. The Claims Distinguish Over Gan.

By contrast, claim 1 as amended recites, *inter alia*, configuring a common HLR as a disaster recovery center HLR which is used to backup multiple active HLRs. Gan does not teach or suggest configuring a common HLR to backup multiple active HLRs. Rather, Gan describes using an HLR to backup a *single HLR*, not multiple HLRs. In further contrast to Gan, claim 1 also recites loading subscriber data of each of the multiple active HLRs to said disaster recovery center HLR through uniform-formatted text files which describe standard services of the protocol in a standard format. Gan does not teach or suggest uniform-formatted text files as claimed, and in fact appears to be completely silent as to this limitation of claim 1. For these reasons, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Gan. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons.

**CONCLUSION**

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

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Respectfully submitted,

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